

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAM-01 IO-13 COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 /085 W

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P R 161509Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TD REHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7157

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

US MISSION NATO 1152

USEC BRUSSELS

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E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, SP

SUBJECT: POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

REF: MADRID 6977, 6919

1. MASSIVE ORDERLY DEMONSTRATION IN MADRID. OVER 50,000
DEMONSTRATORS TOOK TO THE STREETS THE NIGHT OF SEPT 14 IN THE
MADRID WORKING CLASS QUARTER OF MORATALAZ TO PROTEST INFLATION,
CALL FOR FULL DEMOCRATIC FREEDOMS, AND ADVOCATE THE LEGALIZATION
OF NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS AND OTHER GRASS ROOTS
ORGANIZATIONS WHICH SPONSORED THE EVENT. THE ORDERLY TWO HOUR
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MANIFESTATION, WHICH WAS AUTHORIZED BY THE GOVT, WS CHARACTERIZED

BY SELF RESTRAINT ON THE PART OF THE DEMONSTRATORS AND A VERY LOW POLICE PROFILE. AMONG THOSE LEADING THE MARCH WERE REPRESENTATIONS OF THE EXTREME LEFT PTE. THE PCE AND THE PSOE, AS WELL AS THE UBIQUITOUS ANTONIO GARCIA LOPEZ OF THE SPANISH DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST PARTY (PSDE). SOME ORGANIZERS OF THE DEMONSTRATION IN A POST MARCH PRESS CONFERENCE REPORTEDLY CHARGED THOSE PARTIES WITH ATTEMPTING TO STEAL THEIR EVENT.

2. TEMPER COOL IN BASQUE PROVINCES. ALTHOUGH SOME 100,000 WORKERS REPORTEDLY REMAINED OUT ON STRIKE IN VIZCAYA, THE OTHER BASQUE PROVINCES RETURNED TO RELATIVE NORMALCY SEPT 14. AMCONSUL BILBAO REPORTS THAT, WHILE SOME STRIKE ACTIVITY PERSISTS TODAY IN THE VIZCAYAN CAPITAL. THE SITUATION THERE TOO IS COOLING OFF, ALTHOUGH CALLS ARE NOW BEING HEARD FOR RENEWED DEMONSTRATION ON SEPT 20 THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE EXECUTION LAST YEAR OF TWO ETA AND THREE FRAP TERRORISTS. FIFTEEN GUIPUZCOAN MAYORS (REFTEL) WERE RECEIVED SEPT 14 BY FOREIGN MINISTER OREJA AND INTERIOR MINISTER MARTIN VILLA. THEIR DISCUSSION REPORTEDLY CENTERED AROUND THE ROLE OF THE PUBLIC ORDER FORCES IN THE BASQUE PROVINCES, POLITICAL AMNESTY, AND PERMISSION TO FLY THE BASQUE FLAG (IKURRINA). MARTIN VILLA PROMISED A PERSONAL RESPONSE TO THEIR PETITIONS AND REPORTEDLY WILL FLY TO THE BASQUE PROVINCES TOMORROW FOR VISITS TO GUIPUZCOA (FRIDAY) VIZCAYA, (SATURDAY), AND ALAVA (MONDAY).

3. MORODO SUGGESTS RESPONSE TO DRAFT REFORM LAW. IN A SEPT 14 EDITORIAL IN "EL PAIS", POPULAR SOCIALIST PARTY (PSP) SECRETARY RAUL MORODO COMPLIMENTED THE GOVT ON THE DRAFT POLITICAL REFORM LAW AND ACKNOWLEDGED THE POLITICAL "CHALLENGE" WHICH IT PRESENTED TO OPPOSITION. AS THE "MINIMUM" POINTS OF A CONSENSUS OPPOSITION RESPONSE TO THE DRAFT, MORODO SUGGESTED. EXPLICIT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT BY THE OPPOSITION OF ITS ACCEPTANCE OF PLURALISTIC DEMOCRACY, "WHICH WOULD IMPLY THAT ALL GROUPS, WITHOUT EXCLUSIONS, HAVE THE RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE IN SPANISH DEMOCRACY AND NEGOTIATION WITH GOVT "OVER THE ACCELERATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONSTITUENT PROCESS "BASED ON: (1) DIRECT OPPOSITION PARTICIPATION IN THE DRAFTING OF THE ELECTROL LAW. (2) EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY FOR THE OPPOSITION VIS A VIS THE GOVT, IN THE UTILIZATION OF THE MASS MEDIA. PARTICULARLY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TELEVISION AND (3) FORMATION OF A BROADLY REPRESENTATIVE "GOVT OF NATIONAL CONCENTRATION" AFTER THE REFERENDUM TO SUPERVISE PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS.

4. FERNANDEZ ORDONEZ SECONDS MORODO. SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC LEADER FRANCISCO FERNANDEZ ORDONEZ TOLD EMOFF SEPT 14 THAT MORODO'S EDITORIAL, THOUGH A PERSONAL STATEMENT, REFLECTED HIS OWN THINKING AND THAT OF A NUMBER OF OTHER OPPOSITION LEADERS. FERNANDEZ POSITED TWO CENTRAL PROBLEMS FOR THE COMING MONTHS:

FORMATION OF A GOVT WHICH POSSESSES THE LEGITIMACY TO SUPERVISE CREDIBLY FAIR ELECTIONS, AND THE REACHING OF AN AN UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE GOVT AND THE PCE, POSSIBLY THROUGH THE INTERVENTION OF THE PSOE, CONCERNING THE PCE'S PARTICIPTION IN THE ELECTIONS (E.G. THROUGH THE WORKERS COMMISSIONS OR A POSSIBLE FROMT GROUP OF SOME SORT). FERNANDEZ STATED THAT " EVERYONE EXPECTS THE GOVT TO TTEMPT TO MANIPULATE THE ELCETIONS", AND THAT THE PARTICIAPATION OF SOME OPPOSITION FIGURES IN THE GOVT WOULD GO FAR TO CHECK SUCH POTENTIAL ABUSES AND LEGITIMIZE THE ELECTION RESULTS. FERNANDEZ AND OTHER NON-PLATAJUNTA LEADERS WILL DINE AGAIN (REFTEL) WITH PLATAJUNTA FIGURES TONIGHT TO DISCUSS THESE AND OTHER ISSUES.

5. COMMENT: MORODO'S PERSONAL INTEREST IN THE COMPOSITION OF THE GOVT WHICH SUPERVISES ELECTIONS IS NOT SHARED IN THE SAME INTENSITY BY OTHERS IN THE OPPOSITION. THE PSOE, FOR INSTANCE IS NOT CONVINCED THAT SUCH A GOVT IS ESSTENIAL AND IS RELUCTANT TO MORTGAGE ITS CREDIBILITY AS AN OPPOSITION FORCE BY ENTERING A TRANSITION GOVT. HOWEVER, THIS IS LIKELY TO BE ONE OF THE ISSUES ON WHICH MANY OPPOSITION FIGURES CONCENTRATE AND ON WHICH THE GOVT MIGHT BE PREPARED TO GIVE A LITTLE BY GRANTING SOME POSTS TO OPPOSITION FIGURES AFTER THE REFERENDUM.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MADRID07049
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760349-1085
From: MADRID
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760954/aaaabtvr.tel
Line Count: 139
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 MADRID 6977
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01 APR 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <13 AUG 2004 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS
TAGS: PINT, SP
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006